

(DA-SOUTH)

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)--THE CURRENT ISSUE OF ESQUIRE MAGAZINE QUOTES CLAY L. SHAW AS SAYING A CHAIN AND OTHER ITEMS SEIZED FROM HIS APARTMENT BY DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON'S INVESTIGATORS WERE MERELY PART OF A MARDI GRAS COSTUME.

THE MAGAZINE QUOTES MRS. LAWRENCE FISCHER, A COSTUME DESIGNER AS SAYING "YOU COULD RAID ANY APARTMENT OR HOUSE IN NEW ORLEANS AND COME UP WITH SOME PRETTY FAR OUT ENSEMBLES."

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GARRISON'S INVESTIGATORS SEIZED A CHAIN, A BLACK HOOD AND CAPE, TWO PIECES OF LEATHER AND THREE PIECES OF ROPE FROM SHAW'S FRENCH QUARTER APARTMENT WHEN THEY ARRESTED AND CHARGED HIM WITH CONSPIRING TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

"I ONLY KNOW I HAD NO PART IN ANY PLOT," SHAW IS QUOTED BY ESQUIRE.

THE ARTICLE, BY NOVELIST JAMES KIRKWOOD, BREAKS SHAW'S LONG SILENCE ON THE CASE SINCE HIS ARREST MARCH 1, 1967. PREVIOUSLY HE HAD RESTRICTED HIS PUBLIC COMMENTS TO A TERSE DENIAL.

THE CASE IS NOW BEING HELD UP UNTIL THE U.S. SUPREME COURT ACTS ON A CIVIL RIGHTS COUNTERSUIT THAT SHAW HAS FILED AGAINST GARRISON.

SHAW, 55, FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART AND AUTHOR OF SEVERAL PLAYS, SAID HE IS KEEPING A DAILY JOURNAL OF HIS EXPERIENCES AND MAY SOME DAY PUBLISH THEM. HE SAID HE IS ALSO WRITING A NEW PLAY BASED ON HIS EXPERIENCES.

SHAW SAID HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE CASE BEGAN DECEMBER 23, 1966 WHEN A "DETECTIVE OTILLIO" CALLED FROM GARRISON'S OFFICE AND ASKED HIM TO COME IN FOR QUESTIONING.

THAT DAY SHAW WAS TOLD BY GARRISON'S MEN THAT "THEY'D COME

ACROSS THE FACT THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD HAD KNOWN SOMEONE NAMED CLAY BERTRAND WHEN HE WAS IN NEW ORLEANS. THEY'D GONE OVER A LIST OF CLAYS, THOUGHT ABOUT ME, AND WANTED TO KNOW IF I'D KNOWN OSWALD."

SHAW SAID THAT HE CONSIDERED THAT ONLY "INTERESTING DINNER CONVERSATION" THAT HE "DID NOT TAKE SERIOUSLY AT ALL."

SHAW RECOUNTED A CONVERSATION WITH WALTER SHERIDAN OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO. ON FEBRUARY 26, 1967 WHEN SHERIDAN QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT RUMORS THAT GARRISON WAS TRYING TO LINK SHAW WITH THE MYSTERIOUS CLAY BERTRAND.

"I POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT IF IT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS FOR ME TO TRY TO USE AN ALIAS OF ANY KIND, THAT I WAS WELL KNOWN IN THE CITY, I'D BEEN ON TELEVISION, GIVEN SPEECHES, MY PICTURE HAD BEEN IN THE PAPERS OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS AND, BECAUSE OF MY SIZE (6-4) ALONE, I COULDN'T VERY WELL GET AWAY WITH RUNNING AROUND USING A FICTITIOUS NAME," SAID SHAW.

SHAW RECALLED THE QUESTIONING ON THE DAY OF HIS ARREST. HE SAID GARRISON'S MEN PRESSED HIM ABOUT ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT WITH OSWALD AND THE LATE DAVID FERRIE. SHAW DENIED KNOWING EITHER.

"WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF WE SAID WE HAVE THREE WITNESSES WHO WOULD TESTIFY THAT YOU'D BEEN TO DAVE FERRIE'S APARTMENT?" SHAW SAID THEY ASKED HIM. HE SAID HE REPLIED "EITHER THE THREE WITNESSES WERE MISTAKEN OR LYING."

SHAW SAID HE HAS FOUND RELIGION HELPFUL IN SUSTAINING HIS MORALE SINCE BEING ARRESTED BUT ADDED "I SUPPOSE THE KNOWLEDGE OF MY INNOCENCE IS THE GREAT SUSTAINING FACTOR."

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